IN THE SPECIFICATION:

Please replace Page 1, first full paragraph, with the following clean paragraph:

B2 The invention concerns a DUV-capable microscope objective having the features described herein.

Please replace Page 3, ~~first~~ second full paragraph, with the following clean paragraph:

B3 This object is achieved by a DUV objective that has the features described herein. Advantageous embodiments of the objective are also described.

Please replace Page 3, 3rd full paragraph, with the following clean paragraph:

B4 An objective according to the present invention comprises a system of lenses made of quartz glass and fluorite. It has a focus in a wavelength band around a DUV wavelength λ_{DUV} selected for DUV illumination, and the same focus for an IR wavelength λ_{IR} in the near IR region. It was hitherto considered impossible to compute a focus combination of this kind, since with usual computation starting parameters and current methods and theories of optical computation an objective of this kind, focusing in both IR and DUV, was believed to be impossible to realize. The criteria used for evaluating the focusing properties are the so-called spectral image locus curves of an objective, which involve a comparison between the image locus curve for the paraxial region and the image locus curve for full aperture. The spectral image locus curves indicate the focal points of the objective as a function of wavelength.

Please replace Page ~~4~~ 3, ~~1st~~ 5th paragraph, with the following clean paragraph:

B5 Good agreement between the two image locus curves indicates good correction of spherical aberration. Depending on the exemplary embodiment of the objective according to the present invention, the penultimate element is constructed either as a doublet or a triplet, or as a double in combination with an individual lens, or as individual lenses only. As materials, combinations of quartz glass and fluorite or of quartz glass and lithium fluoride can be used. Specific sequences of materials prove advantageous in this context. In one advantageous embodiment, for example, a doublet has the material sequence quartz